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# TO IMPROVE THE ACADEMY

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Resources for Faculty,  
Instructional, & Organizational  
Development

*A Publication of the Professional & Organizational  
Development Network in Higher Education  
Volume 1*

# To Improve the Academy

Resources for Faculty, Instructional, and  
Organizational Development

P.O.D. Resources—1982

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# Foreword

The Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education was formed in 1976 by people who felt that they needed a network to support each other in efforts to make learning, teaching and institutional life more effective and fulfilling. Since that time we have gathered annually in a national conference to maintain the network and learn from each other about faculty, instructional and institutional development. POD has organized regional training workshops and established liaison with organizations such as the American Association for Higher Education.

We also shared writing about our work for several years through the *POD Quarterly*. "*To Improve the Academy: POD Resources-1982*", the first in what is hoped to be an annual series, is our current attempt to share the written perspectives, reflections and strategies of our members.

Many of the pieces included herein first appeared as background pieces for the active sessions at the annual POD conferences. The materials in the fourth section also represent the kind of handouts and suggestions that we regularly pass on to each other on a limited basis to improve our programming, planning, workshops and consultation. You are encouraged to copy and use these pages, adapting them as appropriate (many are several generations removed from earlier ideas about training and consulting). Only be sure to give credit to the author(s) and keep up the process by letting the originator know of your experiences.

We thank the authors of the pieces collected in this volume. They met almost impossible deadlines and suffered a rush to publication with a less-than-perfect copy. We insisted that they share their work in progress and they graciously complied. Such cooperation is typical of POD folks.

If you are not already a member of POD, we invite you to join us. This small network is the best way to keep in touch with others who believe that work and learning will be enhanced when we collaborate to support each other. For information about membership and the annual conference (near Montreal, October 14-17, 1983 and Washington D.C., October, 1984) you may contact the Executive Director, Michael Davis, Office of Academic Affairs, University of the Pacific, Stockton, California 95211. Members who wish to submit items for a subsequent edition of this resource book should contact one of us. We look forward to your offerings and responses.

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